

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5

1. A feeder unit for installation in a device for processing bank-note like objects and operable to draw in individual bank note-like objects of a certain thickness (d), said feeder unit comprising:

at least one drivable feeding roller;

10

an inlet for supporting the bank note-like objects and from which the bank note-like objects are moved into contact with the at least one drivable feeding roller under a pressure force;

at least one transport roller;

15

at least one movable pressure roller that is urged in the direction of the at least one transport roller by retro-acting forces; and

at least one retaining roller located opposite the at least one transport roller and spaced from the at least one transport roller by a gap (a) that fulfils the condition $d \leq a < 2d$, said at least one retaining roller only being rotatable at a speed substantially slower than the speed of the at least one transport roller;

20

wherein when a first one of the bank note-like objects comes into contact with the at least one feeding roller under the pressure force, the first one of the bank note-like objects is accelerated in the direction of the at least one transport roller such that the first one of the bank note-like objects moves between the at least one transport roller and the at least one pressure roller, and

25

wherein the at least one retaining roller prevents a succeeding one of the bank note-like objects from being drawn in between the at least one transport roller and the at least one pressure roller at the same time as the first one of the bank note-like objects.

30

2. The feeder unit of claim 1, wherein the at least one pressure roller comprises a plurality of pressure rollers, the at least one retaining roller comprises a plurality of retaining rollers and the at least one transport roller comprises a plurality of transport rollers, and wherein each one of the pressure rollers is disposed opposite one of the transport rollers and each one of the retaining rollers is disposed opposite one of the transport rollers.

5 3. The feeder unit of claim 2, wherein one of the pressure rollers and none of the retaining rollers is located opposite a first one of the transport rollers and one of the retaining rollers and none of the pressure rollers is located opposite a second one of the transport rollers, and wherein the first and second ones of the transport rollers are disposed adjacent each other.

10 4. The feeder unit of claim 2, wherein the retro-acting forces in the direction of the transport rollers are exerted by at least one compressible and damping element.

15 5. The feeder unit of claim 1, wherein the at least one retaining roller is arranged on a retaining shaft and wherein the feeder unit further comprises means for rotating the at least one retaining roller sporadically or continuously for preventing non-uniform wear of the at least one retaining roller.

6. A device for processing bank note-like objects comprising a module that includes a feeder unit according to claim 1.